Transportation Choices Coalition had a lot of great successes in 2010! This is our second year of producing an annual report to tell you about the work we do to educate, advocate, and develop policies to make it easier for Washington residents to drive less. For our supporters, we hope it will give you a clearer picture of the strength of the organization and the direction we’re heading.

For those of us on the staff and board of TCC, 2010 was a year of change. In this report, we want to introduce you to new staff and board members and give you more information about some exciting new programs. The only constant around here is change!

We believe our organization is only as strong as our most recent ballot victory, the implementation of our newest policy idea, or the recruitment of our newest member. We’re proud of our work in 2010 and know that, although the challenges ahead of us are great – statewide bus cuts, Eyman initiatives, anti-rail activists in Bellevue and Vancouver – we face those challenges head on as a bigger, tougher, and stronger organization than we’ve ever been.

Thank you for your support and hope that you enjoy reading our report.
OUR MISSION
TCC IS WORKING TO BRING WASHINGTONIANS MORE AND BETTER TRANSPORTATION CHOICES – REAL OPPORTUNITIES TO TAKE A BUS, CATCH A TRAIN, RIDE A BIKE, OR WALK

OUR WORK IS TO DEFINE A FUTURE for Washington that offers real transportation choices to connect people with jobs, housing, communities, and each other.

TRANSPORTATION AFFECTS EVERYONE IN WASHINGTON – companies and commuters, families and financiers, transit agencies and tree huggers.

> 52% of climate change emissions in Washington come from transportation.
> 1 in 3 Washingtonians do not get enough physical activity.
> Time wasted stuck in traffic costs Americans $1.5 billion every year.

Transportation Choices is the only organization that brings together disparate interests from across the state to work toward a common goal. We are active participants in both grassroots efforts and high-level decision-making processes.

> We work with legislators in Olympia to make transit a priority for our state.
> We help cities and towns find creative ways to build and maintain sidewalks and bike lanes.
> We support citizens and community groups who want to build the connections that make their communities work.

FOR EVERY $1.50 OUR MEMBERS INVEST, WE HELP PROVIDE $25,000 IN TRANSIT, BICYCLE AND PEDESTRIAN INVESTMENTS

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TCC CONNECTS
YOU TO CHOOSE
Washington's transportation system is in crisis. Our infrastructure is crumbling, and public transit agencies are poised to drastically reduce or eliminate service at a time when transportation choices are crucial to the continued health of our environment and our communities. TCC – in collaboration with Futurewise – has responded to these pressing challenges by launching Transportation for Washington (T4W). T4W is a two-year campaign to encourage direct and immediate action on three key priorities.

INCREASE TRANSIT SERVICE
When transit cuts are unavoidable, they should be made with rider input and with the goal of affecting the fewest people possible. To prevent further cuts – and lay the groundwork for future transit expansion – the state must provide agencies with funding options that are more sustainable and equitable than the current sales tax.

FIX IT FIRST
Washingtonians deserve to travel on safe roads and bridges. The state must ensure that our existing infrastructure is safe and usable before new projects are undertaken. The new investments we do make must create jobs, spur economic growth, and improve the safety of our communities.

BUILD HEALTHY COMMUNITIES
A robust, efficient transportation system is essential to healthy communities: neighborhoods that are affordable, have clean air and water, and enable residents to be active. T4W will strive to engage citizens who are affected by transportation policy in the debate about how to shape it.

OUR MEMBERS COME FROM COMMUNITIES ACROSS THE STATE CYCLISTS, TRANSIT RIDERS, RAIL SUPPORTERS, ACTIVISTS ENVIRONMENTALISTS, PLANNERS, STATE AND CITY LEADERS

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I haven’t seen any other organization step up the way Transportation Choices has. It’s easy to walk in with a sword and a scepter and make demands; it’s much harder to walk in with an identification of the problem and some possible solutions.”

Carl Jackson
Supervisor, South Lake Union Streetcar
Regional Transit Task Force Member

Statewide, public transportation has a good story to tell, and I think oftentimes it is better told by someone other than the service provider. TCC speaks to the benefits of public transit to statewide constituents.

Richard Walsh
General Manager
Whatcom Transit

LAST YEAR, WE WERE INTRODUCED TO CARL, A REPRESENTATIVE OF ATU 587, THROUGH OUR ORGANIZATION’S PARTICIPATION IN KING COUNTY’S AWARD-WINNING REGIONAL TRANSIT TASK FORCE. TCC HAS WORKED CLOSELY WITH LABOR TO FIND WAYS TO PRESERVE OUR TRANSIT SYSTEMS IN THIS TIME OF CRISIS.

TCC WORKED WITH WHATCOM TRANSIT ON THEIR APRIL, 2010 BALLOT MEASURE TO SAVE SERVICE. WHEN THAT BALLOT MEASURE FELL JUST SHORT, WE WORKED WITH THE CITY OF BELLINGHAM TO BUY BACK SUNDAY SERVICE THROUGH A VOTER-APPROVED MEASURE.
We’re really fortunate to have TCC in this community. There’s a lot going on in Tacoma with transportation planning advocacy, and having TCC here adds another dimension to the great work that’s already being done.

Chelsea Levy
Former Metropolitan Development Director
Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce

Everything TCC does is vitally important, but from my perspective the most important thing they do is their advocacy in Olympia. At every point in the legislative process, they [empower] the people of Washington to speak with their legislators in an authentic way about the kind of transportation system we need.

Marko Liias
Washington State House of Representatives

In 2010, TCC worked with the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber of Commerce on a variety of transportation issues, including a major update of the Tacoma Mobility Master Plan and Pierce Transit’s redesign and subsequent ballot measure.

Representative Liias saw firsthand the effects of bus service cuts when his local agency, Snohomish County’s Community Transit cut Sunday service in 2010. As the vice chair of the House Transportation Committee, he continues to be the strongest voice for transit in the State Legislature.
is Seattle’s gain.

the public face – the nuts

and planners. He is the

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Washington

Campaign Director, Transportation for

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as a senior advisor for

former Seattle mayor Greg

Nickels, it’s his passion

about Transportation for

Washington’s mission and

believes that a good

transportation system

consider the needs of all

citizens. “If you provide

a huge menu for people,

you eventually capture

everyone.”

For Viet, it’s all about

moving people and goods

in the most practical and

efficient way possible. “I

don’t consider myself a

transportation nerd,” he

says. “I’m not an extreme

true believer for transit or

any particular mode. If we

move to non-pedestrian

jet packs, I’ll be cool with

that, too.”

Andrew Austin

Field Director

Andrew was standing

Belltown (land of the

bicyclists) but didn’t start

thinking about the

importance of

transportation choices

until he moved to Tacoma

for college. “I didn’t have

a car. That’s when you start to

really think of things

like, ‘Where do the buses

go? Can I get to on

my bike?’

Andrew still lives in

Tacoma, and his job as

Executive Director takes

him all over the state for

meetings and outreach.

With the exception of

a few Zipcar rentals, he

manages these travels

without a car – using

buses and trains as mobile

offices when necessary.

“When I’m riding the bus

it’s a lot of work,” he

says, “I usually make that
time productive.”

Shefali Ranganathan

Director of Programs

First, a little secret...

“Love is when you

tell me ‘I can never

convertible. He drove that

away I said ‘I can never

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and individuals all over

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Michele Hurley

Mr. and Mrs. R. Peter Goldmark

William M. Duford

George Balch

Bill and Linda Stith

Chris Miller

Kirkland City Council

SANDY SUNDAY

Folks like, ‘Where do the

bus stop? I’d be cool with

jet packs, I’d be cool with

moving to non-pollutant

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OUR WORK BRINGS RESULTS. We can turn a handful of quarters into tens of thousands of dollars in transportation investment: buses, trains, sidewalks, bike lanes, and safer roads. MORE transportation CHOICES mean MORE TIME for yourself and your family, MORE MONEY in your pocket, and a cleaner environment.

We are working hard to preserve Washington's economic, environmental, and social health, but we can't do it without you. Renew your membership today to ensure that our state continues to give transportation choices the priority they deserve.

GET ON BOARD!